

10/089,142 REMARKS

Claims 1 and 12 have been amended above to overcome the Examiner's rejections and incorporate his helpful suggestions in the Action of March 23, 2004. The summary of the telephone interview included with the Action is believed to be complete.

Applicant affirms the telephone provisional election of the invention of Group 1, Claims 1-11. This election is believed to be moot with the amendment of Claim 12 to include the language of Claim 1.

The claims have been rejected under 35 USC 112 as being indefinite (Paragraph 5). The claims have been amended to define formation of a resin matrix within the blanket and formation of adhesive outer surfaces on the blanket. Also, the claims have been amended to specify final substrate surfaces. Further, the claims now provide a positive antecedent for said coated matrix/blanket. In view of the above, it is believed that the rejection under 35 USC 112 should be withdrawn.

Claims 1 - 7 have been rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Payne 5,496,434 (Paragraph 7). Also, the Examiner has stated that there is no suggestion in the art to perform the limitation in Claim 8 in the process taught by Payne '434 (Paragraph 8). Rather than making Claim 8 independent, language from Claim 8 has been added to Claim 1 to provide a main claim on which dependent claims 2 - 11 can depend.

In view of all of the foregoing, together with the amendments recently filed, it is submitted that the amended claims are in condition for acceptance. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned if additional discussion is required.

Entry of the above amendment, acceptance of the amended claims and allowance of the above application are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

Arthur L. Urban
Arthur L. Urban, Reg. 16518

7/22/04

406-446-1585 HC 50 Box 4045, Red Lodge, MT 59068-9708

Certificate of Faxing

I hereby certify that the foregoing amendment is being faxed
to Sam Chuan C. Yao at 571-273-1224, US Patent Office, Washington,
5 DC, on 7/22/04

Arthur L. Urban, Attorney for Applicant

10/089/142

7/22/04

10

15